

House Resolution No. 3539

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives recognize the significance of the institution of marriage as a vital foundation of American society and wholeheartedly believe that a successful union can be achieved only through a loving relationship of mutual honor, respect, and trust; and

Whereas, a period of five wondrous decades has passed since Jack C. Bowen lovingly took the hand of his beautiful bride, Melba Jane Cokerham, during a solemn ceremony officiated by the Reverend Truman Quigley on July 13, 1958, at La Plata Methodist Church; and

Whereas, in the years since that heavenly day, Jack and Melba Bowen have had the pleasure of watching their family grow to include their children and their spouses, Jon and Tina Bowen of Kirksville, Ronald and Tami Bowen of Springfield, and the late Jana Bowen; and eight grandchildren, Matt, Robby and his wife, Laura, Scott, Adam, Ryan and his wife, Cara, Ben Annie, and Krystena; and

Whereas, Jack Bowen has compiled an impressive record of achievement that includes retiring from Truman State University following more than thirty-four years of service, during which time he served as Professor of Physical Education and Director of Intramurals; and being past Chair Person of the Kirksville Chapter of the American Heart Association and a member of the Optimist Club and the First United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and exemplary homemaker, Melba Bowen further distinguished herself by being a Youth Coordinator for the First United Methodist Church for more than fifteen years prior to her retirement, a Board Member of the Chariton Valley Association for Handicapped Citizens, an avid bridge player, and an active member of the First United Methodist Church; and

Whereas, Jack and Melba Bowen have enjoyed many hobbies and pastimes over the years, one of which is attending their grandchildren's various sports events; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Bowen of Kirksville will commemorate the resplendent occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary with a special celebration on July 5, 2008, at the First United Methodist Church:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join in extending our most hearty congratulations to Jack and Melba Bowen and in wishing them only the best as they continue their journey walking hand-in-hand along life's path; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Mr. and Mrs. Jack C. Bowen.

Offered by _____
Representative Rebecca Payne McClanahan
District No. 2

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3539, adopted July 2, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker